

Opinion 2394 (Case 3668) – *Conus antidiluvianus* Bruguière, 1792: prevailing usage of specific name conserved by setting aside the unidentifiable lectotype and replacing it with a neotype (Mollusca, Gastropoda, CONIDAE)

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

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Abstract. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature has used its plenary power to conserve the specific name for the fossil cone shell *Conus antidiluvianus* Bruguière, 1792 by designating a neotype. The name is placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; CONIDAE; *Conus antidiluvianus*; *Conus parisiensis*; Paris Basin; Italy; fossil cone shells.

Ruling

The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature has hereby:

- (1) used its plenary power to set aside the lectotype of *Conus antidiluvianus* Bruguière, 1792 designated by Kohn (1992) and replace it with a neotype, specimen MSNM i 28027 in Museo Civico di Storia Naturale di Milano, Italy, as detailed in paragraph 14 of Janssen et al. (2014, p. 227);
- (2) placed the name *antidiluvianus* Bruguière, 1792, as published in the binomen *Conus antidiluvianus*, and as represented by the neotype as designated in (1) above, on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

History of Case 3668

An application to conserve the specific name of a fossil cone shell, *Conus antidiluvianus* Bruguière, 1792, was received from Arie W. Janssen (*Naturalis Biodiversity Center, P.O. Box 9517, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands*), Ronald Janssen (*Senckenberg Forschungsinstitut, Senckenberganlage 25, 60325 Frankfurt am Main, Germany*), Steve Tracey (*Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, U.K.*), Leonard M.B. Vaessen (*Les Bonins, 37350 Le Petit Pressigny, France*) and Jaap van der Voort (*Lutterdamm 19, 49179 Venne, Germany*). After correspondence the Case was published in BZN 71(4): 223–229 on 20 December 2014 (Janssen et al., 2014). The title, abstract and keywords of the Case were published on the Commission's website. No comments on the Case were received.

The Case was sent for vote on 1 September 2016 (VP 7). A greater than two-thirds majority of Commissioners voted FOR the Case (22 For, 3 Against).

Decision of the Commission

At the close of the voting period on 1 December 2016 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes – 22: Aescht, Alonso-Zarazaga, Ballerio, Bouchard, Dmitriev, Evenhuis, Grygier, Halliday, Harvey, Kottelat, Krell, Lamas, Ng, Pape, Rheindt, Rosenberg, van Tol, Welter-Schultes, Winston, Yanega, Zhang and Zhou.

Negative votes – 3: Bogutskaya, Kojima and Kullander.

No votes were received from Bourgoïn and Pyle.

Voting FOR, Grygier remarked that an erroneous expression, “type species of a nominal family” appears near the end of paragraph 13, and the term “neotype” used in line 12 of paragraph 14 should be “name-bearing type”. Also, paragraph 4, concerning “prevailing usage”, is not clearly documented. If everyone post-Hall (i.e., since 1964) has used the original “e” spelling, then that spelling enjoys prevailing usage. If both spellings have been used by different authors since then, perhaps neither enjoys prevailing usage (which is a better way to state this than saying that both do), but the citations necessary to make a judgement on this point are not given. Since the current name-bearing type is lost, the authors themselves might seem to be empowered to make the requested neotype designation. However, in light of questions as to whether the original type locality was in France or Italy and other doubts about the true taxonomic status of the lectotype, and thus concern as to whether the proposed neotype is conspecific with it, the Commission’s approval of the proposed designation seems necessary. Only in this way will an unquestionably valid neotype be established.

Voting AGAINST, Kojima stated that as far as the type locality and taxonomic status of the lectotype are uncertain, and there has been no certain evidence that the lectotype was lost, the better solution in this circumstances would have been to leave *Conus antidiluvianus* Bruguière, 1792 as a nomen dubium and to describe a new species with *Conus antidiluvianus* as used by authors for a species with the prevailing taxon concept as its synonym.

Original description

The following is the original description to the entry on the Official List in the ruling given in the present Opinion:

antidiluvianus, *Conus*, Bruguière, 1792: 637.

References

- Bruguière, J.G.** 1792–1798. *Encyclopédie méthodique ou par ordre de matières. Histoire naturelle des vers*, 1(2). Pp. 345–757 (1792); atlas pls. 287–390 (1798). Panckoucke, Paris.
- Janssen, A.W., Janssen, R., Tracey, S., Vaessen, L.M.B. & van der Voort, J.** 2014. Case 3668. *Conus antidiluvianus* Bruguière, 1792 (Mollusca, Gastropoda, Conidae): proposed conservation of prevailing usage of specific name by setting aside the unidentifiable lectotype and replacing it with a neotype. *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, 71(4): 223–229.